

### I Will Build My Church (Matthew 16:13-18)

**Proposition:** Every follower of the Lord Jesus can fulfill their role as a member of the church by understanding the three basic church truths found in the text before us today.

**I. The Constructor of the Church (Vs. 18a-b)**

- A. The Ordained Constructor (Vs. 18b "I")
- B. The Only Constructor (Vs. 18b "I will build")
- C. The Owning Constructor (Vs. 18b "my church")

**II. The Conflict of the Church (Vs. 18c)**

- A. A Defensive Conflict (Vs. 18c "prevail")
- B. An Offensive Conflict (Vs. 18c "gates of hell")

**III. The Confidence of the Church (Vs. 18c "shall not")**

- A. The Confidence of Triumph (Vs. 18c "it")
- B. The Confidence in Truth (Vs. 18 "it")

## I Will Build My Church (Matt 16:13-18)

I am not much of a builder, but over the years I have been involved in several home improvement building projects. Add a wall here, take out a wall there, build a closet here place a door there. And to be honest I really enjoy doing it. It's just the whole starting and finishing part that I'm not so good at. Once I get going, I am a fury of activity for 6, 8, even 10 hours. That is once I get going. Then after that time I just run out of gas, lose interest, get to some thing I think I can't do or just don't want to do and I quit. I believe we can all here either identify or at least understand. Well when it comes to building projects, the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is undertaking a massive one. It is one that has been going on for some 2000 years. Its foundation was laid by the apostles & prophets with the all important cornerstone being Jesus Christ Himself. Construction work goes on

I. The Constructor of the Church  
I worked for a residential construction co.  
I was amazed at how the Builder could  
take the paper plans we drew up a create beautiful  
houses & rooms. Well I am here to tell you the great truth

constructor Jesus takes the of eternal ~~know~~<sup>know</sup> church.

A. The Ordained Constructor - Vs 18 is preceded by Peters great confession. Jesus asking who do you say that I am. "Thou art Christ The Messiah. The Anointed of God. God of very God. Jesus refers to this truth as the Rock upon which the church is built. Jesus is the Rock, the immovable, ~~unshakable, conserva~~ of the church of the Living God. One author writes "The

B. The Only Constructor - "I will..."

There is no shortage of books on how to build a great church. You can use a particular; music, time, place, message, And these may very well build a great crowd. But a crowd is not a church. A church is that group called ~~out of the crowd to be~~ a follower of the Lord Jesus. And that calling and

C. The Ongoing Construction - Now I know what a person mean when they say, that's my church or her church or our church. But in many smaller church you will find a person or two that may have paid a footer or raised a wall that if not by word, but by deed say <sup>(4)</sup> this is my church No its not. it maybe on your grandpa's

D. The Conflict of the Church

Here in this verse we see a conflict arise an enemy is mentioned, a battle is brought up. No the church isn't entitled to a leisurely walk in the park

1) ...and the materials are not mortar stone and brick but mortals who were sinners now turned into believers. If you are one of those believes, you have a role of participation in this ambitious building project. But maybe like me you can't get started or maybe you have and have kinda fizzled along the way. Well that's what this message is about. Every follower of the Lord Jesus can fulfill their role as a member of the church by understanding the three basic church truths found in the text before us today.

2) ..."The rock-like characteristics of Christ distinguish Him from all other celebrities. "He abides the same yesterday, today and forever" all free from fluctuation and instability." Rock of Ages cleft for me, let me hid my self in thee!

3) ...that calling and that saving is done only by Jesus Himself! In Matthew 4:19 I will make you fishers of men, Matthew 11:28 I will give you rest, John 14:3 I will come again so in Matthew 16:18 I will build my church.

4) ...grand pappy's land but it ain't your church! You may have bought the two by fours and even own title deed to the building, but the church ain't yours! He bought it with his very blood, He called and culled it out of the world of sin, He regenerated it and breathed new life into it, it's his church!

to him who is your master and his master's master

and his master's master's master's master's master's master

is further thy master's master's master's master's master's master

that you will serve, which shall be done, because I have said so.

that will be done, and judgment will be given at the last

day, when all the nations shall be gathered together, and every

nation and kindred, and tongue, and people, shall be gathered

together, and he will say, Come ye blessed of my Father,

He that hath been faithful and servant, enter into the joy of your master

but you that have despised me, go into the everlasting fire,

which was prepared for the devil and his angels.

Then shall the righteous shine like the sun in the kingdom of their father.

### 1) ...over come evil with good, pull down the strong holds of Satan.

Cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself

against the knowledge of God, bringing into captivity every

thought to the obedience of Christ; Sound the battle cry! Lift up

the banner! Just as Uncle Sam pointed out to young men during

WW2 so God is saying I want you. **Esther 4:14** *For if thou*

*altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there*

*enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another*

*place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and*

*who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a*

*time as this? God's gonna bring deliverence. Why not let Him.*

*use you! Vance Havner said "If He's gonna build His church, we*

*need to quit sitting on the premises and go to standing on the*

*promises! Onward Christian Soldiers!*

but Na there is an appositive a conflict w/o church

A. A Defensive Conflict - Notice the word prevail - literally means to over power. We see that this assembly is in a defensive position as all the ~~thrones~~ <sup>counsel rule</sup> and dominions rush thru hell's gates to attack the church. The church is a stronghold of security and purity. Satan has tried persecution, division, apostasy, worldliness, sin to enrage the church, and yet she still stands. Our church is a of safety and refuge, a city on a hill, the pillar and ground of the truth.

B. An Offensive Conflict - Note also the wording "gates" "prevail"? Gates really don't attack anything. No army attacks gates! We as the church of the Living God are to attack the gates. So after we get into just a defensive mode, we just hunker down and wait for an attack. My old basketball coach would say "You boys are playing not to lose instead of playing to win." We need to offensively take the battle out to the enemy. The King has commanded: Go ye!.. Charge! Overcome and

III. The Confidence of the Church  
In professional sports, there have been many occasions where it has been discovered that the fight was fixed.  
Well when it comes to the conflict

building the church, the fire is in, and we will win!

### A. The Confidence of Triumph -

I will build my church... shall not prevail. This building project is going on no matter how Satan and his imps from hell spit venom and wage attacks I will build my church... No matter how the world despises her, and attempts to malign and disfigure her! Jesus said, I will build my church... No matter how apathetic its saints; or how indifferent the sinner. I will build my... All the fathers hath given me will come! There they will

### B. The Confidence of Truth - But

our confidence is not rooted in the abilities of the church to conquer the gates of Hell. Not in the allurement of the church to conquer... Not in the administrations of the church to conquer the gates of Hell... Our confidence is in the Annointed Messiah of the Church. Spurgeon often told the story of a dying elderly lady who was visited by her pastor as she struggled for breath, the pastor asked, are you sinking? A look of shock

IV. Close - There is a building project going on! The promise of Christ should motivate us, to get in the project. Have you fizzled in your participation in the project. Get back into the labor. Lost! Jesus is Built

- 1) ...there they will be in that last day, surrounding the throne in  
pur white garments, a people of every color and race and  
stature singing a new song that no man had ever sung before:  
Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof:  
for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood  
out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and  
hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign  
on the earth.
- 2) ...a look of shock and disgust came across the dying woman's  
face. She didn't even answer him. The pastor asked again, "Are  
you sinking?" With great effort she raised up and the same look  
on her face she said, "Sinking? Sinking? No! If I were standing on  
the sand I might sink, But thank God pastor I'm standing on the  
Rock of Ages, and there is not sinking there!" Confidence in the  
Truth of Christ!